

BRITISH MUSEUM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BUILDER.

SIR,—In answer to a hint thrown out in *THE BUILDER* of last week, I venture to send you a hasty sketch of what might, in my opinion, be made of the façade of the British Museum, not greatly disturbing the arrangement. The plan is drawn to half the scale of that in *THE BUILDER*, and which, I presume, was taken, as mine is, from the plan published by author-

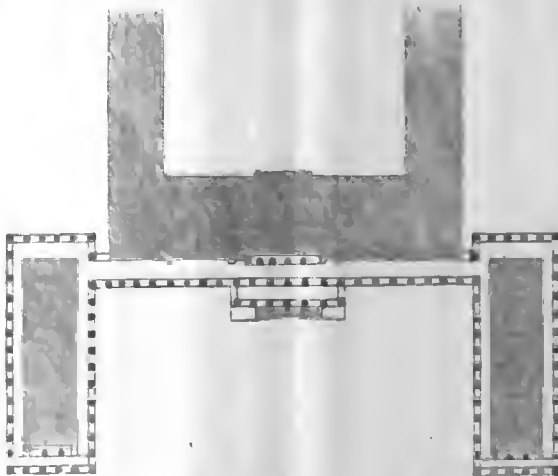
ity in 1838. It will be seen that I have carried the wing five intercolumniations further on each side from the centre, leaving the latter the same; the wings, also, are brought forward five more intercolumniations, and they are terminated by pediments, instead of placing one in the centre, where it would not agree with the practice of the best ancient examples. I would prefer the Corinthian to the Ionic order. In the published plan, apartments for the officers are placed in buildings on each

side of the columnar arrangement: in mine they would form part of the latter. A space of forty feet would still be left between the wings and Great Russell-street. I would fuse the front columns and leave the shaft plain of those behind; an instance of the good effect produced by this practice may be seen at the Bank. If you think the enclosed worthy of notice, it is quite at your service.

I remain, your well-wisher,
Monday, 27th November, 1843. G. R. F.



Elevation.



Ground Plan.

LEAMINGTON PARISH CHURCH.

THE central elevation of the west front of the new parish church was completed two or three days since, by placing an ornamental stoop above the arch of the large window, and we are happy to record that the whole of the stonework of the first part, of the intended design, is now finished, excepting the parapets, which cannot be placed upon the eaves or side sills until the roofs are fixed. Upwards of fifty workmen were discharged last Saturday night till the spring, a sufficient number of masons only being retained to complete the parapets, &c., the masonry of which is now in progress. We believe it is the intention of the Vicar to proceed with the central tower and chancel in the spring, but a strong appeal having been made by a great number of mechanics, who, by the temporary suspension of this important work, are thrown entirely out of employ, has given rise to a requisition to the parish author-

ities relative to the bell tower, as a means of finding work for them during the winter. In this requisition there is an expression of good thrift and true benevolence, and we are glad to subjoin it for the sake of example to many others:—

"To the Churchwardens of the Parish of Leamington Priory.

"Gentlemen,—Some time since, when the masons and labourers who, with other workmen, have been employed at the parish church, assembled, with their wives and children, in the Town Hall, at a dinner provided by the Vicar, their number was one hundred and ninety, and upwards. Most of these will be turned out of employment, as it appears to them and the Vicar of the parish, most unnecessarily. The Vicar is under a pledge to build up a tower to hold the present peal of bells, and no more; but as the parish generally are desirous of a larger peal, it is necessary there should be a larger tower; the difference, therefore, must be provided for somewhere. Now, as many persons who said they were opposed to a rate for this purpose, at this moment

affirm they opposed it under a mistake; we who are ten pound rate-payers and under, find to our cost that the real friends of the poor are all persons who are willing there should be a rate for the purpose above named—for, though the poor man may have to pay a rate amounting to all his tenpence, or thereabouts, still by employment he can earn pounds; and we find that even the loss of one day's work causes us to suffer much more than the loss of the tenpence for the rate, which we are all willing to pay. And we, the poor men, but rate-payers, request of you to call a vestry meeting, for the purpose of forthwith considering the expediency of laying on a sufficient rate to cover the expenses of the difference between the cost of re-erection of the present small tower, and a larger and more suitable one, to hold the future bells; and your doing so, on an early day, will give us employment through the winter."

We are happy to add that the churchwardens and overseers have complied with the above call. A meeting was to take place on Thursday last.